

Amendments to the Claims:

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-26 (cancelled)

27. (new) An antibody that specifically binds to amyloid beta peptide A β 40 or A β 42, obtainable by immunization of a mammal with a polypeptide conjugated to a peptide comprising an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs: 1, 2, 3, and 4; or to a peptide with a sequence resulting from eliminating one or more N-terminal or C-terminal amino acid residues of SEQ ID NOs: 1, 2, 3, or 4; or to a peptide with a sequence resulting from adding one or more N-terminal or C-terminal amino acid residues of SEQ ID NOs: 1, 2, 3, or 4.

28. (new) The antibody according to claim 27, wherein the immunization is performed with a peptide selected from the group consisting of a polypeptide conjugated to a peptide comprising an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs: 1, 2, 3, and 4.

29. (new) The antibody according to claim 28, wherein the immunization is performed with a peptide selected from the group consisting of a polypeptide conjugated to a peptide consisting of an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs: 1, 2, 3, and 4.

30. (new) The antibody according to claim 27, wherein the polypeptide is a conjugate of the peptide and keyhole limpet hemocyanin (KLH).

31. (new) The antibody according to claim 27, wherein the mammal is a rabbit.
32. (new) An isolated polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1, 2, 3 or 4, or an amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1, 2, 3, or 4.
33. (new) A method for preparing an antibody, comprising conjugating the isolated polypeptide of Claim 32 to form a polypeptide, and immunizing a mammal with the polypeptide.
34. (new) The method according to Claim 33, wherein the peptide is conjugated to keyhole limpet hemocyanin (KLH).
35. (new) The method according to Claim 34, wherein the mammal is a rabbit.
36. (new) The method according to Claim 33, wherein the antibody specifically recognizes amyloid beta peptide A β 40 or A β 42.
37. (new) A method of detecting the presence or absence of amyloid peptide A β 40 or A β 42 in a specimen, comprising placing said specimen in contact with an antibody according to claim 27, and detecting the presence or absence of a complex formed by said amyloid peptide and said antibody.
38. (new) A method of evaluating the ability of a substance in activating the degradation of the amyloid peptide or in inhibiting their production, the method comprising introducing an antibody according to claim 27 to an embryonated chicken egg.
39. (new) The method according to Claim 38, further comprising determining the presence of an complex formed between the antibody and the amyloid peptide.